

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

April 23, 2020

The Honorable Peter DeFazio U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative DeFazio:

I write in reply to your April 3, 2020 letter regarding the Department of the Treasury's commitment to efficiently delivering Economic Impact Payments provided for under section 2201 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have worked around the clock to implement the CARES Act and deliver Economic Impact Payments as quickly and securely as possible. In less than three weeks, more than 80 million payments have been directly deposited into bank accounts across the country, and more are on the way. In 2008, the last time a similar effort was undertaken, it took several months to deliver the first 800,000 stimulus payments.

Treasury and the IRS have been working proactively on innovative measures that will allow us to efficiently and securely deliver payments to all eligible Americans, including those whose necessary information for receiving such payments is not already on file with the IRS. This includes the recent launch of two tools on IRS.gov. The "Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here" web portal allows Americans who do not usually file a tax return to provide basic information, including direct deposit information if available, so that Economic Impact Payments can be quickly deposited into their respective bank accounts or mailed to their respective addresses. Additionally, the "Get My Payment" tool is available so those who have filed a tax return can track their payment or provide bank account information.

We also have been working with our interagency colleagues to appropriately utilize information provided by the Social Security Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) so that many Americans who receive income or benefits from those agencies but are not typically required to file tax returns will be able to receive their payments automatically, without providing further information. To this end, Treasury and the IRS have announced that Treasury will use information from Forms SSA-1099 (Social Security Benefit Statement) and RRB-1099 (Social Security Equivalent Benefit Statement) to generate Economic Impact Payments to social security and railroad retirement benefit recipients who did not file tax returns in 2018 or 2019, just as they would normally receive their benefits. Supplemental security income (SSI) recipients will also automatically receive their Economic Impact Payments just as they would normally receive their SSI benefits—directly to their bank accounts through direct deposit, Direct Express debit card, or by paper check. SSI recipients with no qualifying children do not

need to take any action in order to receive their Economic Impact Payment, and recipients with qualifying children should use the aforementioned "Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here" web portal to enter basic information so they can receive their payments as quickly as possible. Further, Treasury is working directly with the VA to ensure our nation's heroes and their beneficiaries who receive Compensation and Pension benefit payments will receive Economic Impact Payments automatically and without additional paperwork.

If you have further questions, please direct your staff to contact the Office of Legislative Affairs.

Sincerely,

Frederick W. Vaughan

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Dracknich W. Vafa

Office of Legislative Affairs

cc: The Honorable Joaquin Castro

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton

The Honorable Tim Ryan

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal

The Honorable Chris Pappas

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush

The Honorable David Trone

The Honorable Mark Pocan

The Honorable Ayanna Pressley

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The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz

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